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"(f) Failed students of the degree as well as the diploma courses are permitted to study in the next year class and appear in the subjects failed. But if such students fail in two consecutive examinations they have to revert and put in additional terms in the subject or subjects in which they have failed before they can appear for the examination again.

"(g) To meet the needs of such failed students, the Government have ordered the following temporary provisions :—

(1) Such students are allowed to pass the examination by parts; and

(2) one more first year diploma examination was ordered to be held in March 1947."

Malaria in Nellore district.

* 143 Q.—SRI L. SUBBARAMA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of attacks and deaths on account of malarial fever in the coastal villages of Gudur, Nellore, Kovur, Kavali and Kandukur taluks in Nellore district for the last three years from 1943; and

(b) what steps the Government propose to take to give aid to the affected areas?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) No information is available. (Malaria is not a notifiable disease and attacks of malaria are not registered. Deaths from malaria are classified under the column 'fevers' in death registers.)

" (b) An anti-malaria scheme at Government cost is working in the Nellore district since 1944. There has been a distinct fall in malaria prevalence in the villages in Nellore district referred to, as a result of the anti-malarial operations carried on under the above scheme. The scheme will be continued."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister will consider it advisable to declare malaria a notified disease in Nellore district? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Malaria is prevalent in many areas. I cannot understand why Nellore district should be singled out."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" He wants the disease to be notified."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Village officers will be asked to further classify deaths under fevers into malaria and other fevers."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether the village officers will be able to diagnose the particular kind of fever?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" As far as possible they will be asked to furnish the information."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister for Public Health will take medical advice in the matter?" (Laughter.)

No answer.

Deaths due to smallpox.

* 144 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that deaths due to smallpox in 1945 were higher than those in 1944;

(*b*) whether the Government have examined the causes for such increase;

(*c*) whether the staff employed for vigilant vaccination work has been increased;

(*d*) whether the Government have under consideration proposals for improving vaccination work; and

(*e*) whether the Government have under consideration proposals to improve the salaries and prospects of vaccinators and Health Inspectors and to increase the staff engaged in vaccination and supervision of their work?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes. There were 860 more deaths from smallpox in 1945 than in 1944. (Accorded deaths from smallpox in 1945 were 20,636 as against 19,776 in 1944.)

" (*b*) The causes for the increased prevalence of smallpox in 1944 and 1945 were—

(i) Dislocation of vaccination work during the period 1942 to 1944 due to diversion of the vaccination staff to combat the widespread epidemic of cholera which was prevailing in several districts at the time on account of the abnormal movements of the population due to evacuation and war conditions, and

(ii) dearth of qualified candidates for appointment as vaccinators to vaccinate the large number of unprotected children left over as a result of the above.

" (*c*) Yes. Special arrangements were made to train candidates in vaccination work and they were appointed temporarily in local areas wherever necessary.